

HOUSE No. 1487

By Mr. Frost of Auburn, petition of Paul K. Frost for legislation to require an agreement between Native Americans and the Commonwealth prior to the location of certain casinos. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT REGARDING GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Before any gambling law becomes legal and binding, there
2 must be consent between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
3 and all Native American tribes that are, or could be, federally rec-
4 ognized as such. The consent to any law regarding casinos
5 between the two parties shall be written and binding, that
6 expressly states the regulations of casinos including, but not lim-
7 ited to the:

- 8 a) size of the casino;
- 9 b) location of the casino;
- 10 c) allotment and distribution of revenues generated by the
11 casino establishment;
- 12 d) additional benefits the host community will receive from
13 the casino.

14 Further, the location of any gambling establishment must be
15 approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Native
16 American tribes, the community within which the proposed casino
17 may be built, and any communities or towns that are within 15
18 miles of the host community by a vote of the majority. Addition-
19 ally, the town or community that would host the proposed casino,
20 by a majority vote, approve the casino's location for the casino to
21 be placed in said community. A majority vote from both the com-
22 munity within which the proposed casino may be placed and the
23 surrounding communities of said community is necessary in order

24 for the gambling establishment to be built. No private or state
25 land shall be taken for the purpose of constructing, or preparing to
26 construct any gambling establishment without written consent
27 from either the owner who appears on the deed of private land, or
28 by vote of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for state land.

29 The host community and those communities 15 miles or closer
30 to the host community shall receive extra benefits, as well as an
31 allotment of revenues generated from the gambling establishment
32 that is in addition to any state-wide redistribution plan that is cur-
33 rently in place to allocate casino revenues.